

Message Text

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TO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SENV, US, UR

SUBJECT: US-USSR ENVIRONMENTAL AGREEMENT, PROJECT 02.05-11
CONSERVATION OF WILD SPECIES OF FLORA AND FAUNA

1. REQUEST EMBASSY PASS FOLLOWING TO DR. V. V. KRINITSKY,
MAIN CONSERVATION ADMINISTRATION, USSR MINISTRY OF
AGRICULTURE WITH COPY TO KAZAKOV, HYDROMET.

2. 02-.05-1102 - MAY 11, 1977

DR. V. V. KRINITSKY

MAIN CONSERVATION ADMINISTRATION

USSR MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE

DEAR VASILI VASILIEVICH:

I HAVE JUST RETURNED FROM 2 WEEKS IN SWITZERLAND WHERE I
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ATTENDED THE 13TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY (EXTRAORDINARY) OF THE
IUCN. WHILE THERE I HAD THE PLEASURE OF RENEWING MY
ACQUAINTANCES WITH DR. BANNIKOV AND GALUSHIN. NOW THAT I
AM BACK AT MY DESK I AM TRYING TO CATCH UP ON WORK THAT
ACCUMULATED IN MY ABSENCE. IN THIS REGARD THERE ARE TWO
MATTERS INVOLVING PROJECT VI.1:

(1) WE HAVE LEARNED THAT MR. MARK WEAVER'S BROTHER DIED RECENTLY. BECAUSE OF PERSONAL PROBLEMS CREATED FOR MR. WEAVER BY THIS UNEXPECTED DEATH, HE WILL BE UNABLE TO VISIT THE SOVIET UNION TO INVESTIGATE FUR FARMING TECHNIQUES AS PLANNED. I VERY MUCH REGRET THAT WE'LL BE UNABLE TO CARRY OUT THIS EXCHANGE AS PLANNED AND HOPE IT CAN TAKE PLACE AT A LATER DATE. THIS, OF COURSE, WILL DEPEND UPON MR. WEAVER'S PERSONAL SITUATION. I WILL KEEP YOU ADVISED.

(2) RAISA HAS RELAYED TO ME THE CONTENTS OF YOUR CONVERSATION CONCERNING YOUR POSSIBLE PROVISION OF SEVERAL SPECIMENS OF MUSTELA EVERSMANNI AMURENSIS. WE FULLY UNDERSTAND THE DIFFICULTY IN OBTAINING THESE ANIMALS AND WILL APPRECIATE ANY ASSISTANCE WE MAY RECEIVE. I ALSO AM AWARE OF THE RARITY OF THIS SUB-SPECIES IN THE WILD. AS WE HAVE DISCUSSED EARLIER, IF THE REMOVAL OF ANY ANIMALS FROM THE WILD WOULD FURTHER JEOPARDIZE THE STATUS OF THE WILD POPULATIONS, THEN WE WOULD PREFER THAT SUCH CAPTURES NOT TAKE PLACE. YOUR SCIENTISTS, OF COURSE, ARE IN A MUCH BETTER POSITION TO EVALUATE THE STATUS OF THE WILD POPULATIONS THAN OURS AND WE WILL DEFER TO YOU ON THIS ISSUE.

I HAVE ASKED DR. ERICKSON TO ASSEMBLE A COLLECTION OF DATA ON CAPTIVE BREEDING OF FERRETS. WE WILL BE ABLE TO PROVIDE YOU WITH COPIES OF THE ANNUAL REPORT ON OUR WORK WITH THE BLACK-FOOTED FERRET AND THE SIBERIAN (STEPPE) POLECAT. PLEASE INDICATE WHAT OTHER TYPE OF DATA YOU WOULD NEED.

I ALSO UNDERSTAND THE DIFFICULTIES IN ARRANGING FOR DR.
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ERICKSON AND AN ASSOCIATE TO VISIT THE AREA WHERE M.E. AMURENSIS OCCURS IN THE WILD. SINCE DR. ERICKSON WISHES NOT ONLY TO VISIT THE BREEDING FACILITIES IN NOVOSIBIRSK BUT IS PARTICULARLY INTERESTED IN FAMILIARIZING HIMSELF WITH THE NATURAL HABITAT OF M.E. AMURENSIS, WE WOULD BE WILLING TO MOVE HIS TRIP BACK TO 1978 IF ARRANGEMENTS CANNOT BE COMPLETED IN 1977.

BEST WISHES.
EARL B. BAYSINGER
CHIEF, INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS STAFF CHRISTOPHER

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Disposition Event:
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